Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL GEORGETOWN 2890

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PORG, PEPR, GY

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA AND TREATY OF TLATELOLCO

1. IN CONVERSATION SEPTEMBER 8 WITH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS RASHLEIGH JACKSON AMBASSADOR WAS ASKED TO SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM USG AS TO WHETHER OR NOT GOG WAS QUALIFIED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO TO ACCEDE TO THAT AGREEMENT. JACKSON POINTED OUT THAT ARTICLE 25 OF THE TREATY WOULD SEEM TO EXCLUDE GUYANA FOR THE SAME REASON THAT GUYANA HAS OVER THE YEARS BEEN PREVENTED FROM BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE OAS DUE TO THE EXISTENCE OF A TERRITORIAL DISPUTE INVOLVING GUYANESE TERRITORY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM WHICH PREDATES INDEPENDENCE. JACKSON WENT ON TO CITE TESTIMONY GIVEN BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN BUSHNELL BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON AUGUST 15 WHICH APPEARS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF GUYANA'S EXCLUSION. HIS REFERENCE APPARENTLY WAS TO THE STATEMENT IN BUSHNELL'S TESTIMONY THAT"OF THE 26 POTENTIAL PARTIES OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 25 WILL SOON HAVE RATIFIED." JACKSON ALSO CITED VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S SPEECH BEFORE THE SSOD ON MAY 24 IN WHICH MR. MONDALE STATED THAT THERE IS NOW "ONLY ONE COUNTRY IN THIS REGION (LATIN AMERICA) WHICH HAS CONFIDENTIAL

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YET TO INDICATE INTEREST IN SIGNING (CUBA) AND THAT SHOULD BE REMEDIED NOW."

2. JACKSON CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS BY SAYING THAT THOUGH GUYANA IS INTERESTED IN THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO AND THAT HE HIMSELF IN HIS JUNE 8 SPEECH BEFORE THE SSOD HAD MADE A GENERALLY FAVOARBLE COMMENT ON IT, THE GOG,

ACCORDING TO THEIR INTERPRETATION, COULD NOT BE ADMITTED TO THE COMPACT EVEN IF IT TOOK A DECISION TO FORMALLY ACCEDE TO THE TREATY UNTIL SOME TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENT IS WORKED OUT WITH VENEZUELA.

3. JACKSON SAID THAT HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER OR NOT THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THE TREATY WAS CORRECT. PLEASE ADVISE. BURKE

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